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VIA EMAIL TO

EDtestimony@cga.ct.gov

February 27, 2019

Dear Members of the Education Committee:

We are writing to voice our strong objection and opposition to SB 738, SB 457, SN 874 along with any other bill that proposes, or leaves open the possibility of forced or coerced regionalization by town schools.

We live in Wilton and moved her specifically because of the quality of Wilton schools. We carefully studied the schools before we moved here. We also strongly value local autonomy and accountability.

We have also studied the bills and believe they would hurt schools, hurt students, and hurt many communities around the state.

Regionalization has been studied by numerous organizations and the results are consistent: cost "savings" are non-existent, at best, and there is no improvement to educational outcomes when districts are forced or coerced to regionalize. We oppose any commission or study that does not preclude forced or coerced regionalization.

Thank you for your consideration.

/s/ William P. Lalor and

/s/ Jennifer Lalor